LSU Faculty Senate Meeting  
3:00 P.M., May 8, 2006, Atchafalaya Room, LSU Union Building

**Attendance**

*Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:*

1. William H. Daly (Senate President)  
2. D. Larry Crumbley (Vice President)  
3. Paul W. Wilson (Secretary)  
4. Judith Schiebout (Member-at-Large)  
5. Lois J. Kuyper-Rushing (Member-at-Large)  
6. Randall Hall (Member-at-Large)  
7. Claire Advokat (Ex Officio, Immed. Past Pres.)

Parliamentarian: Andrew King (present)

**Senators present:**

1. Helene Afeman  
2. Pratul Ajmera  
3. William W. Armstrong  
4. Andrew Christie  
5. Kevin L. Cope  
6. D. Larry Crumbley  
7. Louis Day  
8. Charles Delzell  
9. Kerry M. Dooley  
10. Dennis W. Duffield  
11. Emily Elliot  
12. Wayne Gauthier  
13. Jeffrey M. Gillespie  
14. Brian Hales  
15. Randall Hall  
16. Steven Hall  
17. Steve Hand  
18. Lois J. Kuyper-Rushing  
19. Paul A. Larock  
20. Catherine Lemieux  
21. Douglas McMillin  
22. Kenneth W. McMillin  
23. William Metcalf  
24. James L. Murphy  
25. Kathy Lee O'Reilly  
26. Bruce Mark Olcott  
27. Robert Peck  
28. Robert Perlis  
29. Terrie Poehl  
30. Witoon Prinyawatwatkul  
31. Dorothy Prowell  
32. Leonard Ray  
33. Dan B. Rinks  
34. Rebecca Saunders  
35. Patsy Scates  
36. Joseph Skillen  
37. Kevin Smith  
38. George Stanley  
39. Robert Tague  
40. Ann Trousdale  
41. Warren Waggenspack  
42. Grover Waldrop  
43. Maud Maureen Walsh  
44. Michael Wascom  
45. Rick Weil  
46. Aimee Elizabeth Welch  
47. Cathleen Williams  
48. Paul W. Wilson  
49. Lisl Zach

**Proxies for absent Senators:**

Kevin L. Cope for Jim S Borck  
Terrie Poehl for Yiping Lou  
Warren Waggenspack for Julius Langlinais

**Senators absent without proxies + (# of absences without proxies):**

1. Nicholas G. Apostolou(2)  
2. Kenneth Bankston(9)  
3. Ruth L. Bowman(13)  
4. Hugh W. Buckingham(1)  
5. Mark A. Caruso(9)  
6. David Dismukes(18)  
7. Jay D Edwards(8)  
8. James H. Gill(9)  
9. Elmer Godeny(4)  
10. Kelli Scott Kelly(5)  
11. Gerald Knapp(3)  
12. Vincent J. LiCata(4)  
13. Suzanne Marchand(2)  
15. Thomas Neff(9)  
16. Francois Raffoul(6)  
17. Arnulfo G. Ramirez(1)  
18. Adelaide M Russo(4)  
19. Nicholas A. Sills(1)  
20. Hae Won Southerland(5)  
21. Jeanne L. Spence(10)  
22. Edward L. Suggs(14)  
23. John W. Thompson(6)  
24. Kevin J. Vickers(7)  
25. Louis W. Wiggins(9)  
26. Edward T. White(12)  
27. Dr. Jon E. Whittaker(11)  
28. Warren Waggenspack(2)  
29. Louis W. Wiggins(9)  
30. Edward T. White(12)  
31. Dr. Jon E. Whittaker(11)
President Daly opened the meeting at 3:00 P.M. with a reading of the proxies.

Introduction of Guests
Visiting guests were introduced and urged to sign up on the attendance sheet. Guests attending the May meeting included:

Cleve Brooks, Director of Admissions
Frank Cartledge, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Mike Cherry, Faculty Senate Educational Policy Committee
Doris Collins, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Auxiliary Services
Karen Denby, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Robert Doolos, University Registrar
Heath Hathaway, Student Senate
Donald Hodge, Student Senate
Guadalupe Lamadrid, Associate Director for Admissions
F. Neil Mathews, Vice Chancellor for Student Life
Chris Odinet, Student Government President
Sean O'Keefe, Chancellor
Risa Palm, Provost
Megan Poynot, Student Government
Debora Schulze, Director of Residential Life

Consideration of Minutes - President Daly asked if there were any comments or corrections for the minutes of April 18th, 2006. After minor corrections, Senator Peck moved for approval and Senator Skillen seconded. Minutes were approved by voice vote.

Student Life and Academic Services Report - Vice Chancellor Mathews distributed organizational charts for the Student Life and Academic Services unit and commented on the $54.6 million Union expansion that will include additional room for student and staff senate activities. He also discussed the first year residency requirement that will take effect in Fall 2008 and the rationale for it. The university had a freshman residency requirement in the past but it was abolished in 1979. Interest in such a requirement renewed in 2000 under then Provost Daniel Fogel but at that time the university lacked the capacity to accommodate the increased number of students on campus while still maintaining room for upper division students. The staff also did not want to disturb work on the campus master plan that was in progress. Peer institutions are split on residency requirements. The evidence presented for addition of this requirement was that students do better socially and academically when they live on campus. Research has demonstrated that students who live on campus have more opportunity for academic success. Staff will receive continuous training to support student learning. Residential Life has been making progress in building and renovating housing so that the university now has the capacity to handle the additional students. It is expected that there will be a 1400 bed surplus by next fall. Between 1998 and 2008, 41% of all residential housing on campus will be renovated or new. There are a variety of plans including: Residential
College, Honors House, and "Friends". The original residency requirement allowed no exemptions, but this has been changed. Now there will be exemptions for students over 21, those who are married, those with dependent children, those who live within a 25 mile radius of the university and those with special needs. Senator Gauthier asked if the current renovations depended on the residency rule being in place and Mathews answered that no, renovations were ongoing and funded separately. Senator Wascom asked about plans for Kirby Smith and Mathews responded that it would be demolished or used for offices but not for student residence. Senator Stanley expressed concern that enforcing residency might appear to restrict student freedom and be financially motivated. Mathews stated that the decision was made solely on an educational basis. Senator Saunders asked about the cost to the students for the housing and Mathews replied that it would be approximately $2000 per semester. Senator Gauthier asked about the plans for libraries being installed in the residence halls. Mathews responded that the rooms identified as libraries did not necessarily refer to libraries with books but may be libraries with computer access depending on architectural design. Senator Trusdale asked if Mathews knew why students did not want to live on campus and he responded that there were many reasons given. Senator Perlis had a question concerning the statistical analysis used in the rationale and if there was not some self selection in procedure. He also stated that if all students are forced to live on campus, the academic success statistic used for rationale might actually be lower.

**Chancellor O'Keefe Remarks** - O'Keefe mentioned that the residency requirement was a good initiative and this may help the retention rate that is stalled at about 80%. He suggested that it might also help with our graduation rate. The Chancellor mentioned in the next six weeks the legislature would be meeting and he hoped there would be an improvement of baseline position for support of higher education and LSU in particular. He said LSU will start with the same budget as that at the end of the current fiscal year. This was less than a 1% cut applied to academic units and was much better than the originally predicted 10% cut. The plan for faculty raises of approximately 5% is still holding and the legislature seems to be receptive, with continued discussion on amendments only and not on the need for raises. O'Keefe stated that, for the first time, the legislature has agreed to cover all mandated cost increases rather than insisting these costs come from the normal budget. On May 15-17 the revenue estimating board will meet and it appears the outlook will be better than expected. All tax revenues are up, especially within the last few months. Everyone was surprised by the increase in sales taxes, gambling revenues and personal income taxes. The Chancellor said that these are long term not one shot improvements caused by the immediate rebuilding efforts. He expects that LSU will get all the remaining funds for state matching of endowed professorships and chairs. All supplemental funds look favorable from the governors office. O'Keefe reported that the capital outlay bill is moving forward and appears to be on track. He believes he will get acceptance for a $150 per semester student fee increase that will help with the budget, especially if the revenue estimating board provides favorable numbers. The Chancellor mentioned the capital campaign begins June 19 and wants to start a reasonable endowment that would allow LSU to cover fluctuations in budget during any given year. This would lessen the need to go back to the legislature over and over. The number one priority for this endowment would be faculty support, followed by student support. These would be the primary focus of the campaign. Capital development would come next after these two. O'Keefe mentioned that all three LSU foundations were participating and taking turns sponsoring events. Senator Weil asked if the capital campaign was building on the emotions of the Katrina Fund and O'Keefe said the leadership groups have told him that LSU recognition is as good as it has ever been. There seems to be a pent up interest or a "how can I help" attitude. Senator Gauthier asked how the declaration of exigency by the LSU Ag Center was affecting the main campus and the Chancellor responded that he does not believe any jointly appointed faculty are in danger. It is mostly concerned with off-campus personnel and the main campus is not affected.

**Student Government Officers** - Newly elected student body president, Chris Odinet addressed the Faculty Senate. He stated that student government faces many issues similar to the Faculty Senate and he would welcome building bridges between the organizations. President Odinet asked the Faculty Senate to carefully consider the residency requirements along with parking issues and would like the two groups to work together. He said he had some issues with the residency requirement when the proposed beginning date was Fall 2007. He has been talking with student government officers from Old Miss where residency has recently been inaugurated. Odinet said he will be working with the legislature and the Board of Regents to help get a permanent tuition policy for LSU. He also invited faculty to attend the student and staff senate meetings.

**President's Report** - President Daly reported that progress is being made on the system president issue. A group composed of the faculty presidents from LSU campuses has suggested some guidelines for the selection process. These include:
the President must be politically independent;
the Candidate must have distinguished academic credentials, including a PhD, with a notable background in higher education. He/she clearly must be the best candidate as perceived by the selection committee.
the search must be transparent to the academic community. The selection must be made by a competitive process to assure that the new President has the respect of the faculty and staff.
the selection committee should have a slate of candidates to consider not just one:
the selection process must have faculty involvement to assure that there is a wide range of input;
the candidates must be cognizant of the critical importance of our research and emphasize the development of a knowledge economy for Louisiana; and,
the candidates must understand the importance of efficient delivery of health care to our citizens.

Senator Skillen emphasized the transparency of the selection process perhaps following the Florida model. The last four or five candidates should have interviews taped or have presentations open to the public.

President Daly reminded college policy committees to make sure they have selected their new senators. Daly also handed out certificates of appreciation to retiring senators. Senator Waggensbach asked if there was any way to get senatorial elections on line and Daly responded that he saw no reason not to try. The College of Arts and Sciences is already doing this.

**Education Policy Committee Report** - Michael Cherry, chair of the Education Policy Committee addressed the issue of why students are not finishing in four years. He said LSU needs to establish a culture of planning for a four year graduation and more advising is needed. Unfortunately, there is a lack of personnel to help with advising so the students use the catalog which is not that good. Karen Denby has been collecting data and putting it on line. Robert Doolis has addressed some of the computer-related issues with a new registration process. In the new plan, students coming in will choose one to four majors and fill out an entire curriculum so they can see what is needed. This will help the students take the correct courses at the proper time. A handout from the Physics curriculum was presented in which the students selecting courses online had them immediately checked for prerequisites and a schedule was suggested. A listing of all courses previously taken and those still needed would be available each semester. Each semester, students will need to fill out the form and will always have the option of changing majors. Senator O'Reilly asked whether the departments are using this as a tool and Cherry responded not yet. Senator Metcalf suggested that the program should have a mechanism for alerting the student when they click on a course that is not needed. Senator Peck mentioned that courses are not taught every year and this needs to be incorporated into the program. Cherry said they would need to get this data from the individual departments. Senator McMillin asked if the program was already developed and Cherry responded only partly with physics data used as a model. Senator Ray asked if prerequisites were going to be strictly followed and Cherry said there were a lot of implementation issues but, in general, the program would follow the catalog. Registrar Doolis mentioned that the office had implemented a new checking policy several years ago with the capability of prerequisite checking built into it. Senator Ajmera mentioned that the Engineering College has a registration mechanism with bubble charts and flow diagrams that make scheduling easier. Cherry replied that this approach seems to work well but they wanted to have an online method.

**Old Business**

Resolution 06-06 on Revised Admission Requirements Vice President Crumbley suggested saving time by dispensing with the second reading and just proceeding with suggestions and comments. Senator Stanley asked if the resolution was an actual change in admission requirements or just revision of the catalog statement. Andrew Christie, chair of Admissions, Standards, and Honors Committee explained that the issues addressed by the resolution were an action item in the flagship agenda. He said that most peer institutions do not publish these requirements but rather just list student scores from the previous year. President Daly mentioned that the current website references a table with standards assuring admission to LSU and this would change that guarantee. Senator Perlis suggested there may be a problem with parents whose child receives a 4.0 in high school and yet does not get in to LSU. Christie said that we are only catching up with the rest of our peers. Senator Stanley asked if we could not wait until 2008 and Karen Denby answered that would be a problem since students for next fall are already registering and a decision needs to be made. Christie stressed that we needed to get the word out. Senator Saunders asked if a student could qualify for TOPS and still not make LSU. Christie answered that it was possible. Senator Gauthier asked if this policy change would need to be approved by the Board of Supervisors and Christie responded that yes this would be required and that this resolution was just a proposal. Senator O'Reilly
asked when the policy would be implemented and Christie responded that the target was the 2007 catalog. A vote was called and resolution was passed on a show of hands.

Resolution 06-07 on Final Exam Scheduling The second reading was waved and Michael Cherry, chair Education Policy Committee stated that the change from the previous regulation was in the statement "three exams per calendar day" which would be changed to "three exams per 24 hour period". The date for rescheduling would be the final date for dropping a course with a "W." Senator Day asked about the impact of this resolution. If the number of students becomes significant the faculty would face many problems. Cherry responded that he had no actual numbers but believed the number of students was small. Nevertheless he believes that we should have a written rule. Senator Waggensback mentioned that there were typically 30-35 students per year in the College of Engineering. Senator Tague asked about the requirement for dean approval and not allowing a change by the instructor. Cherry responded that the schedule cannot be changed by the instructor. A vote was called and resolution was passed on a show of hands.

Resolution 06-08 on Whistleblowing Vice President Crumbley suggested saving time by dispensing with the reading and just proceeding with suggestions and comments. Senator Wascom asked that the footnote be removed. Senator O'Reilly mentioned that there was a substantial difference in the footnote between first and second reading. Senator Wascom questioned the footnote concerning state statutes and national statutes. Senator Delzell explained that, in that case, LSU wanted dismissal of the suit because such activity was not protected under law since it did not fall under state or national ruling. Senators Buckingham and Wascom had questions concerning what issues should be addressed in a footnote. Senator Perlis suggested that while the footnote was informative this resolution represented the views of the Faculty Senate and recommended deletion. Amendment to delete footnote was passed by show of hands. Motion to accept resolution without footnote passed by show of hands.

Resolution 06-09 Renewed Recommendation for Creation of Ombuds Office at LSU Member at Large, Judith Schiebout suggested that the resolution was unnecessarily antagonistic in tone and proposed an alternative resolution which was distributed. Senator Cope stated that he preferred the first version of the resolution since it contained a listing of the historical problems and was more forceful. Senator McMillin asked if the ombuds would interact with the Faculty Senate. Daly replied that an ombuds was an arbitrator or someone who could act before a situation gets to the Faculty Senate Grievance Committee. Vice President Crumbley asked how far along the search process had proceeded. Provost Palm responded that the search was already completed and that former Faculty President Advokat and Senator Wascom were both on the committee. Past President Advokat stated that interviews were conducted but after the hurricanes hit the interview progress fell by the wayside because of uncertainty. Vice President Crumbly asked if the candidates were still available. Advokat suggested that contacting them was uncertain. Senator Ray objected to mention of secret accounts and foundation money in the document since the Faculty Senate has no authority over this. Senator Gauthier asked if the ombuds should report to both chancellors [Baton Rouge campus and AgCenter] since the original version of 1988 included the LSU Agricultural Center in the position resolution. Senator Peck made a motion to drop reference to the Ag Center and Senator Perlis seconded. Senator Delzell asked for a written ballot of first version of resolution 06-09 and stated that if passed there was no need to address the second version. Vote on first version failed to pass so discussion of second version commenced. Senator Peck again requested removal of the "Ag Center." Senator McMillin suggested an amendment leaving the reference in the resolution since it was part of a quote-just change reference later in "Whereas" statement to Chancellor of LSU-Baton Rouge. Amendment passed by show of hands and the amended resolution passed unanimously by show of hands.

Resolution 06-10—Adjustment to the LSU Core Andrew Christie, chair of Admissions, Standards, and Honors Committee, stated that the state raised the TOPS requirements but LSU was already at 18. The resolution would simply bring documents in line with what the state now requires. Resolution passed unanimously by show of hands.
New Business
Faculty Senate Executive Committee Member at Large, Randall Hall, submitted a proposed resolution 06-11 Support for Flagship Information Technology Strategy for a first reading. It was read into the record by Andrew Christie.

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LSU Faculty Senate Resolution 06-11: Support for Flagship Information Technology Strategy Introduced by Randall Hall Co-sponsored by Andrew Christie Whereas information technology is an essential component of LSU’s National Flagship Agenda; and Whereas LSU’s Chief Information Officer has charged multiple committees of faculty, staff, and students with the development of a strategic plan for information technology; and Whereas Information Technology Services has already begun to implement aspects of the strategic plan such as Tigerware, the Pelican high performance computing cluster, and the Microsoft software licensing program; Therefore be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate affirms support for the Flagship Information Technology Strategy. Addendum: See http://www.lsu.edu/fits

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Meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm